

## POULTRY

### CHICKENS

The total number of chickens on hand December 1, 2005 (excluding broilers), was 1.86 million head, down 18 percent from the number of head in 2004. The value per head at \$5.30 was down \$0.30 from the value of 2004. Total inventory value was \$9.8 million, 22 percent below the 2004 total value. Value of sales of chickens (excluding commercial broilers) was \$1.2 million, up 5 percent from 2004.

### EGGS

Egg production in West Virginia during the production year (December 1, 2004- November 30, 2005) totaled 261 million eggs. This was 4 percent below the 2004 production of 273 million eggs. Layer numbers during 2005 averaged 1.17 million, down 7 percent from the average number of layers in 2004. The average annual production per layer was 224 eggs, 7 eggs more than the 2004 average. The average price per dozen was \$1.40, down 2 cents from 2004. The total value of production was \$30.5 million, down 6 percent from the \$32.3 million in 2004.

### BROILERS

There were 88.5 million broilers produced in West Virginia during 2005, 2 percent above the 2004 production of 86.4 million. Total production was 362.9 million pounds, up from the 354.2 million pounds in 2004. Value of production totaled \$163.3 million, up 5 percent from the \$155.8 million in 2004. The average live weight equivalent price of \$0.45 per pound was up \$0.01 from the \$0.44 per pound in 2004.

### TURKEYS

Turkeys raised in West Virginia totaled 2.4 million birds, down 25 percent from the 2004 total. Total production was 60.2 million pounds, down 15 percent from the 70.7 million pounds produced in 2004. Value of production totaled \$27.7 million, down 7 percent from the \$29.7 million in 2004. The average live weight equivalent price of \$0.46 per pound was up \$0.04 from the \$0.42 per pound in 2004.

### VALUE OF PRODUCTION AND SALES

The combined value of production from eggs, broilers and turkeys and the value of sales from chickens in 2005 was \$222.7 million, up 2 percent from the combined value of \$219.0 million in 2004.

**EGGS: Production, Disposition and Income, 1996-2005**

Year	Layers <sup>1/</sup>	Eggs Produced per Layer <sup>2/</sup>	Total Eggs Produced	Price per Dozen	Value of Production
	(000) Birds	Number	Million Eggs	Dollars	(000) Dollars
1996	1,046	217	227	1.19	22,511
1997	1,081	227	245	1.21	24,704
1998	1,147	213	244	1.24	25,179
1999	1,099	218	240	1.25	25,037
2000	1,051	240	252	1.45	30,379
2001	1,092	215	235	1.41	27,575
2002	1,223	214	262	1.40	30,602
2003	1,231	220	271	1.51	34,128
2004	1,259	217	273	1.42	32,325
<b>2005</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>30,473</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Average number during the year. <sup>2/</sup> Eggs produced during year divided by average layers on hand during year.